

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
BEAUMONT DIVISION

CHRISTOPHER LEE KEATON §  
VS. § CIVIL ACTION NO. 1:24-CV-138  
DENNIS MARTIN §

MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER

Plaintiff Christopher Lee Keaton, a prisoner confined at the Telford Unit of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Correctional Institutions Division, proceeding *pro se*, filed this civil rights action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 against Dennis Martin. The defendant is employed at the Telford Unit.

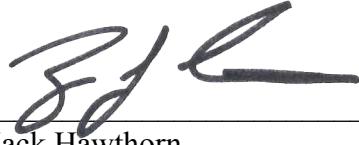
Discussion

When jurisdiction is not founded solely on diversity of citizenship, 28 U.S.C. § 1331 provides that venue is proper in the judicial district where the defendants reside or in which the claim arose. Under 28 U.S.C. § 1404, the district court may transfer a civil action to any other district where it could have been brought for the convenience of parties and witnesses and in the interest of justice.

Plaintiff complains of incidents that took place at the Telford Unit. The Telford Unit is located in Bowie County, which is in the Texarkana Division of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas. Venue is proper in the Eastern District of Texas, but the court has considered the circumstances and has determined that the interests of justice would be served by transferring this action to the division in which the claims arose. Therefore, the case should be transferred to the Texarkana Division. It is accordingly

**ORDERED** that this civil rights action is **TRANSFERRED** to the Texarkana Division of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas.

SIGNED this 24th day of April, 2024.



---

Zack Hawthorn  
United States Magistrate Judge